excavation license to those who have not submitted detailed report on their previous excavations. The Archaeological Survey of India has also drawn up a time bound programme to complete the pending excavation reports.

Khajuraho temples

649. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that conservation has taken a back seat at 1000 years old Chandela temples at Khujuraho;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is substantial seepage in main temples, plants are sprouting amid sculputures and the city of Khajuraho provides not even a public toilet for the tourist; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to restore this historic monument?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Centrally protected monuments at Khajuraho are receiving adequate and proper attention. Special reports to monuments have been undertaken wherever necessary, apart from day to day maintenance under the annual repair programme. The annual conservation programme and special repairs take care of the various maintenance issues like water seepage, growth of vegetation, etc.

As part of tourist amenities, two toilets have been provided near the western group of monuments. For the current financial year i.e. 2005-06 Rs. 38.30 lakhs budget is provided for conservation, to refurbish tourist amenities and environmental development of Khajuraho group of monuments. It is also appropriate to mention that instructions have been recently issued to all circles to pay special attention to improve tourist amenities in all World Heritage sites and ticketed monuments.